

OFFICIAL
Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

DEC 16 2003

In re Application of:)
)
Gerald H. Ablan)
) **Art Unit: 3621**
)
Serial No.: 09/644,411)
) **Examiner: C. Hewitt II**
)
Filed: August 23, 2000)
)
For: Auction Management System)

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICIAL ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 16, 2003

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the First Official Action mailed October 4, 2003, please enter the amendment shown in the attached Amendment Dated December 16, 2003.

REMARKS

The examiner rejected certain of the previously pending claims based on the form of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and 112. The claim have been amended to overcome these rejections. In particular, all the claims are now directed to a computer-readable medium containing computer executable instructions or to a computer controlled apparatus executing such instructions. A method that could conceivably be implemented by a person without the use of a computer is not claimed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed with the
United States Patent and Trademark Office, Patents by
facsimile directed to Examiner Calvin Lloyd Hewitt II in Art Unit
3621 ~~3321~~ at (703) 305-7687 on August 16, 2003.


Michael J. Mehrman - Reg. No. 40,086